

EDITORIALS

The Herald Grew, Too!

The year just ended saw many changes and improvements in Torrance as a city. The year also was not without significant progress, growth and achievement for THE HERALD.

Noteworthy, of course, was the great mechanical improvements made in the plant at 1619 Gramercy with the installation of a 64-page rotary press which will take care of the paper's printing needs for many years to come.

The policy of giving the advertiser the most return for his dollar, through accurate and sincere distribution to an ever-growing area, was maintained with many improvements in the circulation department.

Because THE HERALD is the only newspaper completely produced in Torrance—from the time a reporter writes his story until the complete newspaper is delivered to your doorstep—it is the only newspaper capable of providing complete local news coverage.

THE HERALD is prepared to continue to grow with Torrance in 1958 and in the years to come. It will always be a newspaper in which its readers can have confidence and in which, we hope, they can take justifiable pride.

Airport an Asset

This newspaper respects the opinions of those who have had or feel that they have had objections to some facets of the existence of the Torrance Municipal Airport. Doubtless there have been occasions when some fliers have been at fault in the manner of operating their aircraft but, by and large, we take issue with the few who have gone so far as to make the fantastic suggestion that the airport ought to be closed up.

The airport, acquired by the city for nothing from the federal government, already has proved to be a dollars and cents asset to the city. An industrial district already exists wholly because of the airport and 1958 will see this area grow in importance. Other commercial development will take place during the year that will produce increased revenue to the city.

As a group, there are few persons more careful than private fliers. Usually they are thrifty in acquiring the small craft that have always helped to keep America airminded; the vast majority observe Civil Air Regulations to the letter. They are still human, however, and among them are some who are as bad as all too many automobile drivers when it comes to practicing safety or respecting the rights and security of others.

Objective, constructive criticism of the airport is wholesome and helpful. Bitter denunciation will get nowhere and will help no one. There are few cities in the United States that wouldn't pay big money to have a facility as good as this most valuable property. We should all keep that in mind.

Opinions of Others

Part of the difficulty in teaching, speaking and writing the English language is the preponderance of archaic, obsolete and nonsensical ways to spell the words. This has troubled linguists, English teachers and others interested in the problem for a long time. Many attempts have been made to reform the language and one of the most recent is that sponsored by the publisher of a newspaper in the San Joaquin Valley, Homer W. Wood of the Porterville Recorder.

It is reasonable to assume that the major reason why Johnny can't read is that he can't spell, and in this predicament he has a good deal of company, including most parents. We hear a good deal about the drawbacks of modern pedagogy, but our experience is that communications penned by persons who attended the schools of 30 and 40 years ago show lamentable signs of lack of spelling ability.

He has urged the creation of an official United States dictionary and has written a small example of what he suggests, a pamphlet that will bear study. The ideas embodied in this little booklet commend themselves to persons who wish to see the English language as it is spoken and written in this country to be made easier to comprehend and use. Such a language that contains the words, rough, through, trough, draught, tough, cough, bough, dough, enough, brougham and others having the same appearance but entirely different pronunciations is not the easiest one to get the upper hand of, and any way to help conquer it will be welcome.—Bakersfield Californian.

Save That Pore Chile!



YOUR PROBLEMS by Ann Landers

A Failure at Rope Climbing

Dear Ann: I've been going with this bachelor for two years. I love him very much and he loves me. He's never stepped out on me that I know of, at least I've never caught him.

All this time he's been promising if I got a divorce we would be married. So two months ago I went ahead and talked my husband into it. Now the boy friend has a thousand reasons why we can not be married.

I've threatened several times to move out of his apartment if he didn't come up with a ring, but he always manages to talk me out of it. I'm beginning to think I am in a fix. I've been reading your column faithfully for a long time and I've never asked for advice before, so please help me.—S.O.S.

If you're in the kind of a "fix" I THINK you're in, please send your name and address at once and I'll air-mail special the list of homes for unwed mothers.

If you've been reading this column faithfully for a long time, how come you didn't pay attention to the advice?

Dear Ann: I'm 12 years old and in a peck of trouble with my mother. I'm a girl who has always made fairly good grades in school but I was never very good in gym.

Well, we just got our report cards and I got F in gym because I didn't take showers and I can't climb the ceiling rope.

I'm not good at exercise and that's all there is to it. My mother wrote a note on my card saying I don't try very hard. I thought this was mean of her and it got me into more hot water.

My mother is so mad she won't let me go anywhere after school, not even to my girl friend's house. She treats me like I murdered somebody. Mom says the punishment is going to last until I get another report card and that's five weeks off. What can I do?—Jail-Bird.

You can take showers like everybody else and make an attempt to climb that ceiling rope. Even if you don't make it, you will get E for effort instead of F for not trying.

Dear Ann: I need help and I need it NOW. A certain relative calls me on the phone and keeps me for hours while she gabs endlessly about nothing. I've missed buses, burned soups, and have had to let the doorbell ring because I couldn't get away from the telephone.

This person is older and I've been taught to respect my elders. I realize the reason she talks so much is because she's lonesome.

But what about me, Ann? Must I be trapped like this every day? Whenever I hear her voice I could scream because I know it means another hour shot. I'm ready to

hang myself with the telephone cord. Please give me some practical advice.

—Lop-Eared.

Dear Lop-Eared: Your relative has black cord fever and there's no cure for it. The best you can do is protect yourself against getting a corn on your ear by doing the following:

Decide how much time you are willing to donate to your lonesome relative every day. Let's assume it's 10 minutes.

Write this simple sentence and practice it so you'll be able to repeat it convincingly with the accent on the proper words. When the 10 minutes are up, interrupt her if you must squeeze into the conversation with a shoe-horn.

Say: "I'm very sorry, Aunt Myrtle, but I can't talk ANY longer this morning. I have a million things to do. Thanks for calling. Let me call YOU

when I have more time."

Confidentially: Victim of the Gossips: And where do they get all the "inside dope"?

Quit trusting everyone with the details of your intimate affairs and you won't be shocked to hear that people have "betrayed" you.

Sorry Wife: You should have stuck by him until he "rested up." The guy said he was tired—not dead. Get on your knees, Sister and good luck.

The Teen Tunes: You girls sound like snobs to me. I remember when sweaters used to be something to wear with skirts... today they are a way of life. What's wrong with wool?

(Ann Landers will be happy to help you with your problems. Send them to her in care of THE HERALD and enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope. © 1957, Field Enterprises, Inc.)

and I Quote...

You can't change the feelings in people's hearts with a law.—President Eisenhower.

Let the highest achievement of yesterday be the starting point of today.—Paulist Fathers (Roman Catholic).

That a man has a restful and peaceful life in God is good. That a man endures a painful life in patience, that is better, but that a man has his rest in the midst of a painful life, that is best of all.—Meister Eckhart.

THE FREELANCER by Tom Rische

Wanted: A Court Jester

With black scare headlines filling our papers these days, what America badly needs is a national court jester.

What America needs is a good belly laugh.

Not since the late Will Rogers went to his death in an Alaskan airplane crash has America had a real national comedian who appealed to everybody and, at the same time, really said something.

Lots of funny men have pranced across American stages in the meantime, but most of them have cleaned up a few cocktail party jokes, carefully penciling out anything that could conceivably offend anybody. They're funny, sure, but they're just "ha-ha" funny. Our history has been molded more than most people think by people who were "ah-ha" funny, but who really said something.

In his day, Will Rogers wielded a tremendous influence on both the public and Congress. By making jokes about national affairs, he more than once changed legislation which Congress was

getting ready to pass. There is nothing more disastrous to an idea than to make it ridiculous.

In times of stress, nothing helps us to get a perspective on ourselves and at the same time make us feel a little better than laughter.

We felt a little better about Sputnik by making jokes about it.

Comedian George Gobel pointed out in a recent magazine article that today's comedian, if he cares to stay on the air, has to avoid any subject that is even remotely controversial. Some of the things that offend people border on the ridiculous, suggesting that something has happened to our national sense of humor.

Gobel once made a little New Year's joke: "The National Safety Council predicted that 500 people would be killed over the holiday, but to date, only 350 have been killed. Some of you aren't trying!" To this writer, that seemed innocuous enough, but the National Safety Council was outraged.

Perry Como recently had to make a public apology to cab drivers for presenting a humorous skit in which a cab driver was shown cheating a customer.

There are many other instances of similar jokes which brought howls from some group which feels that its high-priced public relations program was endangered.

These days, the only safe subjects for jokes are weather, wives, and people on Mars. (The latter two groups haven't organized a protective league yet.)

A good belly laugh helps us to see how ridiculous some of the things we say really are. If Will Rogers were still around to make wisecracks about some of the windy generalizations of today's politicians, everybody might benefit.

Maybe the trouble is, as Rogers once pointed out: "Americans are getting more like a Ford car. They all have the same parts, the same upholstery, and make exactly the same noises."

Loyal and Disloyal Citizens

From Europe to Asia recently we again saw a million Americans in our armed forces helping to preserve the freedom of the free world. In these same distant lands we saw thousands of graves of other Americans who paid the supreme sacrifice that this freedom may survive. Here and abroad there are also additional thousands of war-scarred veterans in federal hospitals, the incurable victims of three wars in our generation. These thousands sacrificed life and limb for an ideal... loyalty to their country's call in time of war. These are our greatest heroes, living or dead, in 1958.

But here at home, until our freedom is directly challenged by war, many citizens take it for granted. Words like "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness"... or, "I pledge allegiance"... are to some just noble words to dust off, or repeat like parrots, at public functions. But, thank God, to the greatest majority of Americans they spell eternal vigilance as the price of freedom. It is because of these that the Republic has survived the conspiracies from within and from without, and remains the last bulwark of free men throughout the world.

We cannot repeat too often that America came into being because our forefathers challenged uncharted waters and wastes to find faith... not food. They believed in liberty more than they believed in life... they believed in opportunity more than they believed in government paternalism. These are among the principles that moved them in establishing a new kind of nation. To be a loyal citizen today entails more than obeying the laws, paying the taxes, volunteering to the armed forces, and voting on election day. These are the minimum requirements of good citizenship. Our greatest obligation, it seems to me, is for every citizen, at whatever cost and sacrifice, to maintain and preserve the principles of our founding fathers and to pass them along to future generations without damage or distortion.

America, as we cover it in the length and breadth of its diversity, is composed of several kinds of citizens. Among these are the loyal citizens... the disloyal citizens in our midst... and the parasites who live on the sweat and the sacrifices of the good citizens.

The loyal citizen is found everywhere. Above all he shows his gratitude for his freedom in almost everything he does. He keeps abreast of community, national, and international affairs because they directly influence his life and the life of his family and nation. The loyal citizen regards the security of his country first and foremost. He considers free enterprise, even with some of its inherent problems, the best system of life on earth. He informs himself on the fundamental reasons for the creation of this Republic... and the why and wherefore it was set up in this manner. He knows the principles underlying the Constitution... and then checks and re-checks the right and false definitions attributed to it. For the Constitution of the United States is a simple, understandable document of principles, and only those who try to destroy it present interpretations foreign and false to the original intent of the underwriters. The good and loyal American citizen puts loyalty to America first... above personal whims, personal fixations, previous nationality, selfish profit or advantage, and personal politics. The good citizen works in behalf of a political party and in behalf of worthy candidates... and makes himself available for service in his community, and for service which will serve the best interests of his country.

Every nation has disloyal persons among its citizens. The more successful the nation, the more numerous are its enemies from within and from without. These are the persons, pseudo-citizens by birth or false adoption, who accept the material and ideological bounties of America, while plotting its destruction. These are the spies in the service of a foreign government or ideology, or in the service of their own distorted minds and ideas, playing the role of false-martyrs in behalf of some fuzzy-brained "Utopia" of their own visionary creation.

There is another equally bad citizen in our midst. He is the loafer... the person who chooses to live without working, but who joins the world of the hoodlum, the gangster, the prostitute, the racketeer, the crook, the gambler, or the outlaw among society, who by his slick tongue takes advantage of the innocent, the gullible, or the uninformed. It's the despicable crook who courts the well-to-do widow, or the rich man's daughter, for his own

deceitful ends. The cheat who robs his employer by stealing goods, or stealing time.

Then there is the subversive, the traitor, the phony, the pseudo-do-gooder, who abuses his privilege under the Constitution by refusing to answer questions as to his loyalty under the pretense of "civic rights." Some of these subversives are, of course, members of the Communist Party, or Soviet spies, or both. Others are members of Red-front organizations, radicals, leftists, extremists, who, while violating no law, sometimes are working around the clock to undermine the Republic and to destroy its free institutions. Every Fifth Amendment Communist is a traitor and an enemy. Every so-called American, who refuses to answer any and all questions regarding his loyalty to America, should be exposed so at least the people may know.

We all have encountered parasites in our communities. They are persons who live on the sweat of others... and who accept what others have produced without lifting a hand. Thousands of these are found in front of the "unemployment compensation" windows each week, accepting the monies which belong to others, while depriving the real worthy who are out of a job temporarily of a larger share of aid to tide them over an emergency. They are the chronic loafers who work just the minimum of the State requirement in order to be eligible to collect unemployment compensation.

Then there is the parasite who accepts a check from his government, even though it is legal, for compensation of a job he did not fulfill. This includes the politician who accepts a government salary while undermining the very government he swore to preserve. It includes those under government subsidy, who could afford to finance themselves. It includes the phony recipient of service disability pensions who broke his leg while shooting quail, instead of the enemy. It's the con-artist who holds on for dear life on some public payroll, without rhyme, reason, or qualification.

Freedom is not free. Liberty is not something that just happens to a people or a nation. For freedom and liberty exist today only because the greatest majority of the American people work for it and fight for it and die for it... and who hope by their example to keep increasing their number at the beginning of each New Year.

Rx FOR GOOD HEALTH

Clearing Out the Mailbag

Question—Why is low blood pressure seldom discussed? Isn't it dangerous?—I.T.

Answer—Low blood pressure in itself seldom is dangerous. Most people with it can be happy they have it. There are certain diseases, such as Addison's disease, in which low blood pressure is one of the symptoms, but they are comparatively rare.

One of the mechanical causes of low blood pressure is a slower-than-normal reaction of the blood vessels to changes in demands of the body. Blood vessels constrict or expand in response to varying needs of exercise or sudden movement in order to compensate for shifts in volume. Persons with low blood pressure may find a dizziness or fainting spell occurring when they rise suddenly from a reclining position. This is due to the fact that nerves which supply the blood vessels do not act quickly and smoothly enough to overcome the effect of gravity and there is a momentary decrease of blood to the brain.

Q.—How dangerous is an operation for removal of the prostate gland?—B.W.

A.—Nowadays with modern surgical techniques and increased skills, the prostatectomy is as safe as any other major operation and is safer than many of them.

(Presented as a public service by the Southwest Branch of the Los Angeles County Medical Assn.)

Q.—Is it true that half of all cases of blindness could have been prevented if caught early enough?—P.L.

A.—Yes. There are over 800,000 cases of blindness in this country caused by glaucoma. Early diagnosis of this condition—which is an increased pressure within the eyeball—generally would have permitted medical or surgical treatment or both in time to save the eyesight.

Q.—What precautions are taken to prevent sponges being left in a person after an operation?—D.T.

A.—A careful count is made at least twice before and again following surgery

to make sure all instruments, sponges and other materials are accounted for. Should a sponge be missing in the final count, an X-ray can be taken which will reveal its presence inside the patient—sponges (actually pads of gauze) nowadays being prepared with X-ray-opaque markers in them.

Q.—How dangerous is an operation for removal of the prostate gland?—B.W.

A.—Nowadays with modern surgical techniques and increased skills, the prostatectomy is as safe as any other major operation and is safer than many of them.

(Presented as a public service by the Southwest Branch of the Los Angeles County Medical Assn.)

Q.—Is it true that half of all cases of blindness could have been prevented if caught early enough?—P.L.

A.—Yes. There are over 800,000 cases of blindness in this country caused by glaucoma. Early diagnosis of this condition—which is an increased pressure within the eyeball—generally would have permitted medical or surgical treatment or both in time to save the eyesight.

Q.—What precautions are taken to prevent sponges being left in a person after an operation?—D.T.

A.—A careful count is made at least twice before and again following surgery

to make sure all instruments, sponges and other materials are accounted for. Should a sponge be missing in the final count, an X-ray can be taken which will reveal its presence inside the patient—sponges (actually pads of gauze) nowadays being prepared with X-ray-opaque markers in them.

Q.—How dangerous is an operation for removal of the prostate gland?—B.W.

A.—Nowadays with modern surgical techniques and increased skills, the prostatectomy is as safe as any other major operation and is safer than many of them.

(Presented as a public service by the Southwest Branch of the Los Angeles County Medical Assn.)

STAR GAZER by CLAY R. POLLAN. Your Daily Activity Guide According to the Stars. To develop message for Thursday, read words corresponding to numbers of your Zodiac birth sign.

Torrance Herald. Established Jan. 1, 1914. Member of National Editorial Association, California Newspaper Publishers Association. Publication office and plant, 1619 Gramercy Ave., Torrance, Calif.